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(54) METHOD FOR ENERGY GENERATION, ENERGY GENERATOR, AND ELECTRIC GENERATOR USING SUCH ENERGY GENERATOR

(57) A method for energy generation, comprising the following operations: providing an emitting body (1) in a metal that defines a metallic lattice suited to store hydrogen; causing the storage of hydrogen in the metallic lattice; exposing the emitting body (1) to a stimulation to excite the hydrogen stored in the metallic lattice to obtain the emission of energy; modulating the stimulation over time in such a way as to control the emission of energy.

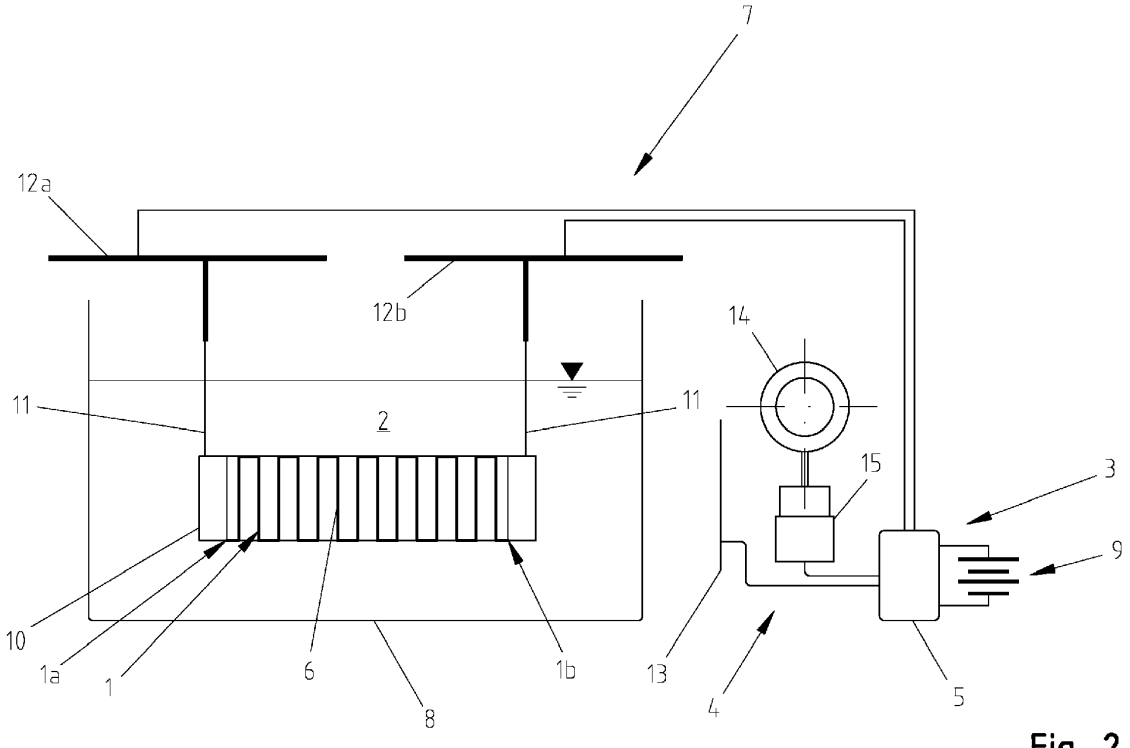

Fig. 2

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DECLARATION

which under Rule 63 of the European Patent Convention shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

Application Number
EP 21 17 4250

The Search Division considers that the present application, does not comply with the provisions of the EPC to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of all claims

Reason:

In view of independent claims 1 and 9 and of the description, the present invention consists in an energy generator and a corresponding method for energy generation via inducing and controlling, in a emitting body, a neutron emitting exothermic nuclear reaction at room temperature by exposing the emitting body to a stimulation (by e.g. radio frequency waves, laser beam, mechanical vibration, ultrasound) to excite hydrogen stored in a metallic lattice to obtain emission of energy. The phenomenon underlying the invention is also referred to as Lattice Confinement Fusion, LCF.
Up to today, LCF is still not ready for practical applications at least because of the low power levels allegedly obtained so far.
LCF is presently investigated at NASA. According to NASA, in this new method, conditions sufficient for fusion are created in the confines of the metal lattice that is held at ambient temperature. While the metal lattice, loaded with deuterium fuel, may initially appear to be at room temperature, the new method creates an energetic environment inside the lattice where individual atoms achieve equivalent fusion-level kinetic energies.
Even though the mechanism underlying the alleged observation of "anomalous excess heat" is believed to be different, since the alleged nuclear reaction leading to the excess heat, and therefore to the claimed generation of energy, is aimed to occur at ambient temperature (see page 4, lines 16-19; page 6, lines 1-4; page 12,

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CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)

INV.
G21B3/00
G21G7/00

ADD.
G21H1/02
G21H1/04

Place of search	Date	Examiner
Munich	28 January 2022	Manini, Adriano

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Reason:

lines 26-28; page 23, lines 11-15), LCF appears to fall under the same kind of reactions as attempted to be described by the theories o f Low Energy Nuclear Reaction (LENR) and Condensed Matter Nuclear Science (CMNS), all terms relating to the so-called "cold fusion".
A patent can be granted for an invention which is, inter alia, susceptible of industrial application. This concept is related to the obligation on an applicant to give a sufficient description of the invention. An invention or an application for a patent for an alleged invention which would not comply with the generally accepted laws of physics, or for a completely new invention based on effects which have not yet been accepted by the scientific community, would be incompatible with the requirements of industrial applicability and sufficiency of disclosure because it cannot be used and therefore lacks industrial application. Also the description would be insufficient to the extent that the applicant would not be able to describe how it could be made to work.
It goes without saying that the patentability of "revolutionary" inventions is not prevented. However, the requirement of sufficiency of disclosure makes the amount of information required for a sufficient disclosure of an invention somewhat dependent on the actual "nature" of the invention. If the latter lies in a well-known technical field and is based on generally accepted theories, the description need not comprise many specific technical details which would

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Reason:

anyway be implicit to a skilled person. However, if the invention seems, at least at first, to offend against the generally accepted laws of physics and established theories, the disclosure should be detailed enough to prove to a skilled person conversant with mainstream science and technology that the invention is indeed feasible (i.e. susceptible of industrial application). This implies, inter alia, the provision of all the data which the skilled person would need to carry out the claimed invention, since such a person, not being able to derive such data from any generally accepted theory, cannot be expected to implement the teaching of the invention just by trial and error.
In the present case, description and drawings provide for an apparatus and a for a method of operating it which is allegedly supposed to generate the "anomalous excess heat" that is mentioned above, from LCF, and that is then supposedly used to generate electricity (see page 5, lines 10-13 and 25-28; page 6, lines 14-16). However, the division is not aware of any such device that is actually already working and in particular generating an amount of energy, and electricity, that is i. a. susceptible of industrial application. Moreover, the present application is also not supported by neither any experimental evidence demonstrating the effective obtention of the alleged nuclear reaction at room temperature, nor by any further independent counter-experiment demonstrating its reproducibility.

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Reason:

More specifically to the point just mentioned above, on page 18, lines 21-24, it is stated that "the Geiger counter detects a sudden increase in the emission level, as well as a simultaneous increase by about 3 times in the emitted neutrons count, from about 10 neutrons per hour to 30 neutrons per hour, proving that a nuclear reaction is triggered". However, the neutron emission levels mentioned therein are so low, that they seem to merely lay within a normal background level. Moreover, even if this should not be the case, it is not at all apparent how a neutron emission level of 30 neutrons per hour could be sufficient for generating the net electricity needed for making it indeed susceptible of industrial application.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that a search may be carried out during examination following a declaration of no search under Rule 63 EPC, should the problems which led to the declaration being issued be overcome (see EPC Guideline C-IV, 7.2).

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